



April 2003

**VOMARC HAMFEST SATURDAY, APRIL 26**  
**8 a.m. to Noon at the Sonoma Vets Building, 126 First Street**  
**West**

**HAMFEST SET TO GO!**

The Valley of the Moon ARC annual hamfest is ready to roll this coming Saturday, April 26. As always, there will be VOMARC members wandering through the parking lot in the breaking dawn, directing vendors to their parking spaces, starting about 6:30 a.m.

Ed, W1EJ, will once again head up the breakfast crew in the kitchen. He plans to be in and preparing breakfast with his crew starting at 7 a.m. As in past years, the cooks will be serving breakfast starting at 8 and running through about 10 a.m. Breakfast will be the VOMARC Special Menu of scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, juice and coffee, all for only five dollars per person. A pancake only breakfast will

again be offered for only \$3.50. This is the best breakfast deal in town, and if it were offered more often than one day a year it would put those poor folks at Black Bear Diner and Pearl's out of business. Be sure to bring all your family, friends and neighbors, because this is the main VOMARC fundraiser of the year.

Kermit, W6JFN, will keep watch over the club swap table. Club members can park their treasures-for-sale on the table and tell Kermit just how valuable the gear is and just how little they are willing to accept for the great sacrifice of letting it go. Members need to put their call signs on stickers on any equipment not being donated to the club if they want to see any moola from the sale-a.

Randy, AA6GV, will be putting the VE license testing session together, with registration starting about 9 a.m. and testing beginning about 10. The annual VOMARC license class is wrapping up the Tuesday before the hamfest, so we should be seeing some new faces with new licenses and familiar faces with upgrades coming out the door of the test session. Look for lots of smiles and listen for the giddy giggles coming from the successful candidates.

Mike, WB6TMH, will once again host the annual VOMARC fox hunt during the morning. Mike usually gets things under way about 9 a.m., and has run beginner and advanced fox hunts in the past. The schedule will again depend on how many people sign up for the hunt.

VOMARC will debut its new tower trailer for the HF station operation this year. Jim, K6UUW, will have a QRP station operating in the annual QRP To The Field contest, and is looking for operators to spell him so he can cruise the swap meet. Glen, N6CX, will be on hand to help with CW operations, but VOMARC will also have a PSK-31, packet and APRS station operating during the hamfest.

Joan, W6WXU, will be keeping the vendors at the electronics and radio swap in line. Anyone wanting to get serious about selling can set up a table or tailgate for \$10 and convert some of that collection of gear

in the shack or garage into money, that can then be recycled by buying someone else's "junk".

Ed, KA6OFR, will be handling our talk-in again this year on the 145.35 repeater, PL at 88.5 Hz.

The VOMARC hamfest is always a lot of fun and, like Christmas, comes only once a year. There will be an AMSAT table, perhaps some satellite operation, lots of friends to visit with, and lots to do. We hope to see you all there!

### **FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL**

At the last SIRS meeting, Ed, KA6OFR, and I had the opportunity to give a talk on ham radio. We concentrated on the emergency service provided by hams and how to get a license. Ed also discussed the new ECHO system where it is possible to link UHF repeaters through the Internet. If you want to listen in, try the CCCC machine on 444.275 Mhz with a PL of 82.5 Hz.

Darrel, WD6BOR, and I were invited to give pretty much the same talk at the local Experimental Airplane Association chapter meeting Tuesday, April 8. We showed the new ARRL video on ham radio narrated by Walter Cronkite. If you would like to use that video or the DVD version, let me know. Hopefully, these outings will bring us some new hams and

possibly some new club members.

Good progress was made on the antenna trailer. John, KD6KVZ, Steve, K2IYQ, and Dan, KG6LJN, got together at Darrel's hanger and finished up the job. The club beam was assembled and raised by the winch on the trailer. The CQ DX contest was going on so we made a couple of QSO's using my ICOM 706 and getting a 59 +10db from New Zealand. Eileen dropped by and made her first QSO. I hear that Ken, N6KM, is joining the 706 MK II group.

I want to give you all another reminder to write your representatives for their support of the Spectrum Protection Act now in Congress. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site:  
<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>.

Those writing their lawmakers are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail at [specbill03@arrl.org](mailto:specbill03@arrl.org). The text of HR 713 and S 537 is available via the Thomas Web site:  
<http://thomas.loc.gov/>.

The ham class is coming along nicely. Thanks to Mike, WB6TMH, and Ed, W1EJ, for taking a couple of classes and thanks to Steve, K2IYQ, for all the code practice sessions after the class. Steve also does on the air CW practice every night at 1945 PDT on 147.48 Mhz.

Please make sure that you attend the next meeting at McDougal Hall on the 16th so that we can finalize the hamfest planning. Also, bring your foxhunt gear so that we can give Mike, WB6TMH, an opportunity to check out the foxes. There will be a foxhunt during the hamfest.

73, Jim

### **VOMARC SK**

Frank Masten, AB6SG, SK. One of the original members of VOMARC, Frank passed away on March 23. A card has been sent on behalf of VOMARC to Brownie.

Frank passed away on March 23 in Lompoc, where he and Brownie had moved to be near their children.

Frank was born July 20, 1920, in San Francisco. He served as a Marine pilot during World War II and the Korean War, and used to tell stories of flying Corsairs in the Pacific Theater.

Frank married Brownie in 1960, and moved to Sonoma in 1967, where he helped start the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club with other local hams. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America and as a 4-H leader.

Frank left a loving wife, two daughters, a son-in-law, two granddaughters, and many friends.

## NEW REPEATER

There is a new repeater in downtown Santa Rosa. The owner is Lee, KE6EAQ, and he wants everyone to use it. The frequency is 146.835 Mhz, minus offset and a pl of 88.5 Hz. Coverage is limited to the Santa Rosa area.

## REMEMBER THE HAMFEST!!!

(To heck with the Alamo)

## THE VOMARC WIRELESS

### VOLUME 7 EDITION 4

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club - W6AJF

Frank C. Jones - W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW - El Presidente'

George Maurer, K6ITE- El Vice President

Joan Brady, W6WXU - La Secretary

Steve Todd, K2IYQ - Don Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Senor Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Mr. Club Trustee

Steve Todd, K2IYQ - El Membership Chair

Jan Bush, AE6FQ \_ Ze Webmeister

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - de la (de da) Editor

*Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.*

**CLUB MEETINGS** are held on the third Wednesday of each month in McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, 15000 Arnold Drive, Eldridge. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

### WEB PAGE:

<http://www.vomarc.org/>

**Nets** are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600, PL 88.5 Hz.

**ACS** holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

**PACKET STATION INFO:** The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

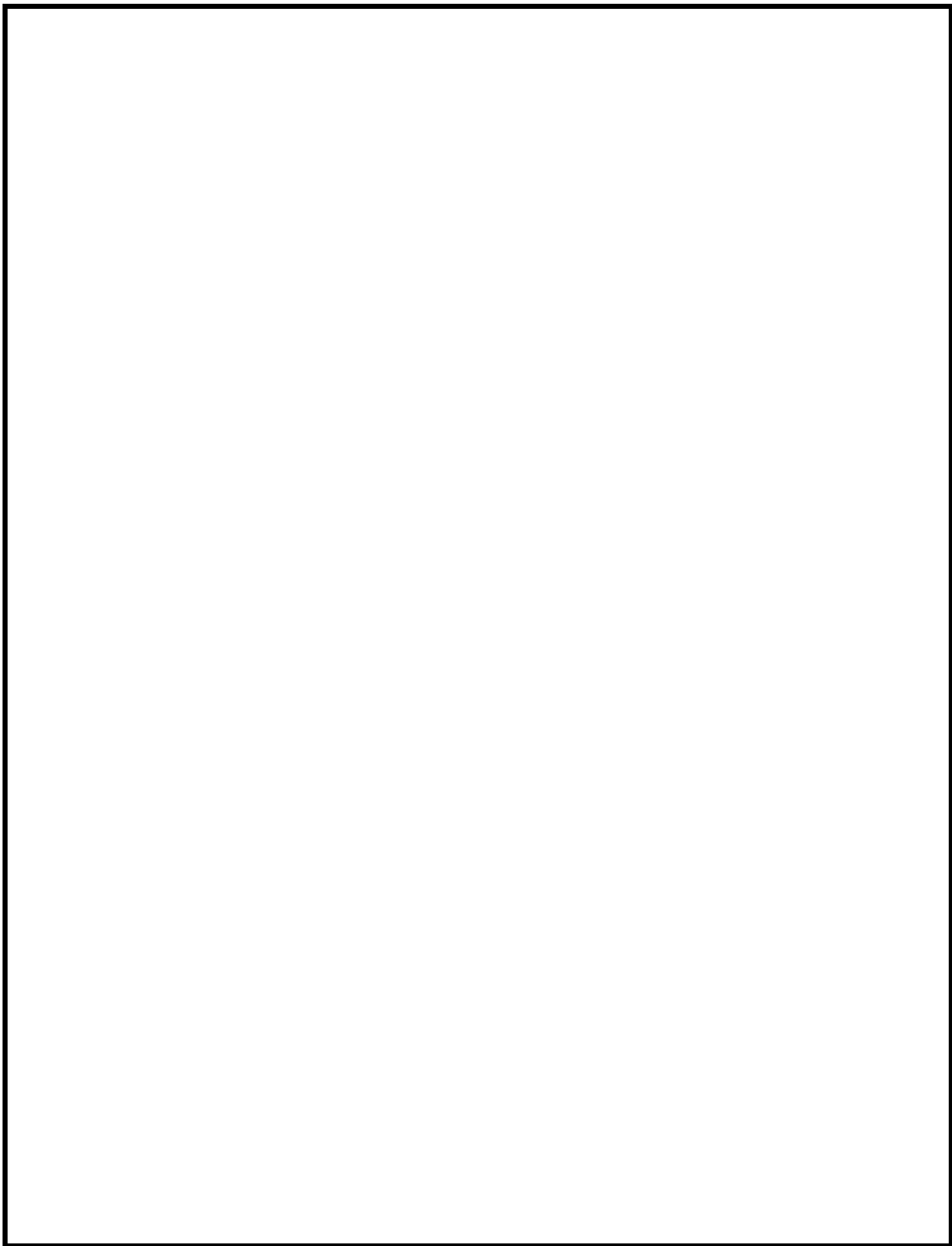
**CLUB BREAKFASTS** are held on the first Saturday of each month at Denny's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

WD6BOR@VOM.COM

### Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West  
Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon  
ARC**

**18958 Carillo Court**

**San Jose, CA 95128**

**HAMFEST A-COMIN' APRIL 26! BE THERE OR BE  
SQUARE! HAMFEST A-COMIN' APRIL 26! BE THERE OR  
BE SQUARE! HAMFEST A-COMIN' APRIL 26! BE THERE  
OR BE SQUARE! HAMFEST A-COMIN' APRIL 26! BE  
THERE OR BE SQUARE!**

**NOTICE!!! THE APRIL VOMARC MEETING IS THIS  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, AT 7:30 P.M. AT MC DOUGAL  
HALL AT THE SDC! CU THERE!**

---

**VOMARC MEMBERSHIP**

**VOMARC 2003** Membership Dues: \$10/year individual; \$5/year family member.

ARRL Membership Dues: \$39/year; Over 65, \$34/year with proof of age; Family, No QST \$8/year.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ APT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

VOMARC:\$ \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL:\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL:\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC** - 18958 Carillo  
Court, Sonoma, CA 95476-5570